

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of: Robert J. O'Brien

**Application No.** 09/770,942**Filed:** January 25, 2001**Confirmation No.** 8210**For:** METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
CONCENTRATING SAMPLES FOR  
ANALYSIS**Examiner:** Rodney T. Frank**Art Unit:** 2856**Attorney Reference No.** 3005-58065-01

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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Attorney  
for Applicant(s)

Richard J. Polley

Date Mailed May 6, 2004

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO  
37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 and enclosed herewith are several English-language and/or non-English-language documents. Applicant respectfully requests that these documents be listed as references cited on the issued patent. This Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") is being mailed before Applicant received a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the referenced application.

This statement is provided in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the IDS filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item contained in the IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS. As a result, no fee should be required to file this IDS.

Please charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with filing this IDS, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

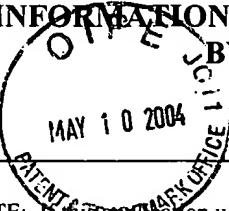
The filing of this IDS shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, prior art or otherwise material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Respectfully submitted,

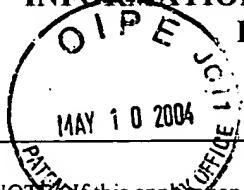
KLARQUST SPARKMAN, LLP  
By \_\_\_\_\_  
Richard J. Polley  
Registration No. 28,107

One World Trade Center, Suite 1600  
121 S.W. Salmon Street  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
Telephone: (503) 226-7391  
Facsimile: (503) 228-9446

cc: Client  
Docketing

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> 		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	3005-58065-01	
		<b>Application Number</b>	09/770,942	
		<b>Filing Date</b>	January 25, 2001	
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	O'Brien	
		<b>Art Unit</b>	2856	
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	Rodney T. Frank	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>				
<p>NOTE: If this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of United States patents and United States published patent applications do not have to be provided to the Patent Office. This requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) has been waived by the United States Patent and Trademark Office pursuant to the Official Gazette Notice on August 5, 2003 (1276 OG 55).</p>				
<b>Examiner's Initials*</b>	<b>Cite No. (optional)</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>	<b>Name of Applicant or Patentee</b>
		2,839,152	06/17/1958	Tracht
		3,240,052	03/15/1966	Reinecke et al.
		3,291,980	12/13/1966	Coates et al.
		3,712,111	01/23/1973	Llewellyn
		3,991,626	11/16/1976	Shair
		4,033,171	07/05/1977	Karas et al.
		4,095,455	06/20/1978	Karas et al.
		4,517,824	05/21/1985	Quimby
		4,962,662	10/16/1990	Berger
		5,034,193	07/23/1991	Maroulis et al.
		5,240,603	08/31/1993	Frank et al.
		5,305,232	04/19/1994	Chimowitz et al.
		5,340,476	08/23/1994	Berger et al.
		5,476,000	12/19/1995	Henderson et al.
		5,624,846	04/29/1997	Hayashibe et al.
		5,811,059	09/22/1998	Genovese et al.

<b>EXAMINER SIGNATURE:</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED:</b>
<p>* Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through cite if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>	

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Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. (optional)	Number	Publication Date	Name of Applicant or Patentee
		5,918,257	06/29/1999	Mifsud et al.
		6,027,758	02/22/2000	McHugh et al.
		6,301,952	10/16/2001	DeZeeuw et al.
		6,456,095	09/24/2002	Sorita et al.
		6,494,078	12/17/2002	Klee

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